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The Days Of CIA Chief Allen Dulles Are Numbered

The Coming Break-Up Of Central

(From The New Republic)

With the collapse after Cuba of public confidence in the competence of the Central Intelligence Agency, the untouchability of the Agency came to an end.

The House Rules Committee is toying with the idea of a full-scale investigation. Sen. Eugene McCarthy has introduced a resolution reviewing earlier proposals for some kind of Congressional watchdog (the CIA is the only agency whose books are not open either to the General Accounting Office or to regular Congressional scrutiny).

An eight-member Presidential advisory group headed by Dr. James Killian is said to be studying a fundamental reorganization of U.S. intelligence which might conceivably, among other things, break up the CIA altogether. Some consideration has even been given to what might be done in the event of drastic reorganization with the CIA altogether. Some consideration new headquarters on the Virginia side of the Potomac. Before the summer is out Allen Dulles will probably be out too, though he may be permitted to fade away on a leave of absence.

The CIA role in the Cuban disaster is not, however, solely responsible for the contemplated reforms. The White House has been careful not to single out CIA as the scapegoat. There have been stories inspired by members of the President's staff suggesting that the Pentagon is as much if not more to blame.

In our view it is of special importance to recognize that the case for the abolition of CIA and for a general reorganization of U.S. intelligence rests on something more substantial than one isolated instance of spectacular misjudgment and mismanagement in Cuba. What emerges from post-mortems on the events of April 19 is not that CIA so openly bungled. It is that CIA had in effect been entrusted with broad responsibility for US policy which properly belonged in the State Department.

Arrangement Not Disturbed

This had been true under Eisenhower, but the President-elect did not disturb the arrangement. The fact that Kennedy was unable to find a satisfactory Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, and that Adolf Berle had been operating out of the White House as a kind of interim Assistant Secretary—a set-up that will end now that Dean Carl B. Spaeth of the Stanford Law School has accepted the post—meant that CIA was not subject even to the nominal operating check of the responsible regional authority in the State Department.

Still, it would probably have made little difference had Mr. Spaeth been selected in February rather than this month, for the power of the CIA to venture forth on its own without reference to any larger purposes of our foreign policy had come to seem natural and proper. The CIA's preponderance in resources (an estimated annual budget of not less than \$500 million and quite possibly \$1 billion, as compared with a requested total budget of \$247,013,-

Intelligence